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Item 67 (b) of the preliminary list*
General and complete disarmament

Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/59/50 and Corr.1.

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I. Introduction

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/116 O of 15 December 1989, entitled "Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof", the relevant operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "...
>
> "8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report by 1992, and every three years thereafter until the fourth Review Conference is convened, on technological developments relevant to the Treaty and to the verification of compliance with the Treaty, including dual-purpose technologies for peaceful and specified military ends; in carrying out this task he should draw from official sources and from contributions by States parties to the Treaty and may use the assistance of appropriate expertise;
>
> "9. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty to assist the Secretary-General accordingly by providing information and drawing his attention to suitable sources."

2. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 9 of the resolution, a note verbale was sent to States parties to the Treaty inviting them to provide information on the subject. Replies have been received from China and Slovenia, which are reproduced in section II below. Any additional replies received from States parties will be issued as addenda to the present report.

3. The Secretary-General wishes to point out that the information submitted to him by States parties to the Treaty does not provide sufficient official material for him to report on the subject matter on the basis indicated in paragraph 8 of the resolution.

II. Information received from Governments

A. China

[Original: Chinese]
[24 May 2004]

China has always opposed the deployment of nuclear weapons by nuclear-weapon States outside their territories and the introduction of weapons of mass destruction on the seabed and the ocean floor and the subsoil thereof. China stands firmly for the exploration and use of the seabed, ocean floor and the subsoil thereof for peaceful purposes only. Since its accession to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, China has faithfully fulfilled its treaty obligations. China supports General Assembly resolution 44/116 O and stands ready to assist the Secretary-General in performing his responsibilities. As to the "technological developments relevant to the Treaty and to the verification of compliance with the Treaty, including dual-purpose technologies

for peaceful and specified military ends" referred to in paragraph 8 of the resolution, China has no relevant information in this regard. Should there be any in the future, China will be willing to provide it to the Secretary-General.

B. Slovenia

[Original: English]
[29 April 2004]

1. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Department for Disarmament Affairs and has, with reference to the latter's note of 27 February 2004, the honour to communicate that neither the Ministry of Defence nor the Nuclear Safety Administration of Slovenia has any data on the emplacement of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction on the seabed, the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof in the territory where the Treaty is applicable or anywhere else on the territory under Slovenian control and jurisdiction.

2. With regard to the dual-use technology, there is a special procedure inscribed in the law on export of the dual-use goods and technology. Until today, no permits have been requested in accordance with this law to export such technology.